

# **COLUMBIA PARKS AND RECREATION**

## **Public Comments for**

### **Magnolia Falls Park Development**

**Meeting Held September 10, 2019**

**Online Comments were open from August 20, 2019 through September 13, 2019**

**Please comment on what you like about the proposed potential improvements. Please be concise.**

- I am excited for the park to be a more usable space, especially with improved access trail. I love the field and soccer goal and having a playground.
- I like keeping the park as natural as possible. Not taking out any trees. Keeping the trail gravel or paved on it existing path. Don't tear out trees where trail goes through woods. Keep the pond. I don't mind enlarging it. Do keep bridge over pond and fountain in the pond. I like the current playground and shelter. Water fountain would be good. No basketball court. I like soccer field open grass area. Have trash cans.
- I like the walking trail and playground. Honestly, I am very happy with this new plan! Thank you for listening to the feedback and working to make this park as natural as possible.
- We like the changes per the current plans as proposed.
- The circle trail. Please make concrete vs. gravel. This will encourage bikes vs. just walkers.
- I really appreciate the Parks and Rec Dept responding to the concerns from the first public meeting. I like the playground and the gravel walking trail, which is easier on the knees than a concrete trail.
- Please move entrance of park from neighborhood. Currently it is in front of house and there is an option to move it between two houses, while saving distance needed to be paved.
- I am not in favor of the BBQ. If this is truly a neighborhood park, that would not be necessary as it can be done at the residents houses. I know in speaking to one of the part guys it was thought to be a good idea for neighbors using the facility for things such as birthday parties. I would like to see a discussion topic made for this at the meeting on the 10th. I am guessing most just didn't mention it on their previous survey but are not in favor of it. 100 people replied and 5 or 6 mentioned it. Seems like a pretty low number.
- From what I read people in the area don't want a park in their neighborhood. So build it in the north part of Columbia where it would probably be better received and welcomed.
- I am in agreement with amended proposal the city has made from the 7/30/19 meeting.
- No soccer field and a larger pond. I loved the idea from the meeting of maximizing the pond To walk around. I do not like the entrance from magnolia falls looping to the right. Why not stream line it to the corner open area?
- Make the trail paved for bikes, strollers, wagons. Extend a sidewalk down KK from Mill Creek Manor area
- Include an area for dogs.
- Being that it is such a small area, I would really prefer to see the park be as a natural setting as possible--very much like the Clyde Wilson park. Very much more a natural setting

- I'll be concise. We hope you can unobtrusively build the 6 foot park connector path from subdivision across the creek (w/new bridge) without disturbing too many tall shade trees. Please keep that part of the development minimal...exactly as written in the current park plan. Thanks Not a fan of the prefabricated pavilion. Looks way too big for such a small park.
- Hopefully the parks and recreation sign will not be too big or gaudy. Minimal parking only.
- The small prefab shelter and revised concrete access path into subdivision looks excellent! Lock this plan in and don't alter it.
- Updates park plan looks promising, seems to be a good compromise. The revised plan is purposeful and still allows us to keep some natural aesthetic. Making this park ADA accessible is a smart move especially for older people like us.
- Revised plan looks superb. Zero changes needed.
- Take care when you develop that neighborhood connector area inside Magnolia. The tree line along that area provides us with privacy. The relocated connector looks good, keep it; but please don't disturb the underbrush trees or shrubs that give our neighborhood privacy. The less development in this area the better. Please make the path inside the subdivision blend with the natural surroundings. This is essential.
- Deeping and enlarging the pond is a wise move. Also the neighborhood connector location is good. Don't move the location. It is optimal for disabled access. But please do not cut down any of the taller trees or shrubs than is necessary on the Magnolia Falls Subdivision side of the creek. The neighborhood relies on these trees and shrubs for visual and auditory privacy. As many have already noted: Less is more. Please preserve as much of a natural beauty and privacy as possible. Thank you!
- After looking over the revised park plan again I must say it all looks great. Making the concrete neighborhood connector ADA compliant and positioning it exactly as you did so that everyone can easily access the park was very thoughtful. Looks good. Please don't change a thing.
- Huge fan of the revised plan. Don't change a thing. After looking at all details we decided we love the new plan especially the relocation of the neighborhood connector 6 feet concrete trail.
- I prefer no structures so i would like the shelter, bbq and playground removed. I would like more trees added especially on the eastern half of the park. Those of us on on forsythia falls loop are fairly exposed to mill creek in the winter and more trees would help with that. Preferably evergreen trees. You mentioned clyde wilson park in the meeting. I looked up pics of that and that looks perfect to me.
- Make a section an area for dogs.
- Change gravel path to concrete. Magnolia Falls is so hilly, there is not currently a safe place for young kids to ride their bikes. It would also make the trail more accessible for people with strollers and wheelchair
- 1. 9 hole discgolf course 2. Playground further from parking lot and road. Maybe put it where the soccer field is. 3. Soccer field seems unnecessary. 4. Wire mesh inside fence so children can't slip through the split rail fence. Similar to a dog park. 5. Benches along walking trail 6. Larger parking lot.
- Would it be possible to add a small bike rack? I think the neighborhood kids will ride there bike to the park to use the field.
- The current plans include a 2-rail estate fence. I'd prefer a fence that's less easily penetrated. Something similar to the fence around Woodridge Park (3532 Berrywood Dr, Columbia, MO 65201). Magnolia Falls

Park will be so near S. Old Mill Creek Road, and I want the children playing there to be better protected from going into that road.

- I DO NOT want to see BBQs in the park. I live in Magnolia Falls and I feel like having BBQ grills will bring in trash, rodents, and overall dirtiness. This already exists over at Jay Dix only five minutes from here. People that live in this neighborhood already have access to BBQs at their homes and will not use those. The less opportunity for trash and litter the better!
- Small parking lot is clearly needed. Thanks.
- I wouldn't change anything about the new plan!
- I love it! I know plenty of my neighbors were opposed to any development, but my family and I were on board with all of it - the soccer field, playground, parking lot, etc. We were bummed that the sport court was removed from this plan, but if that is part of the compromise to get everything else, we are happy. Thank you for making this space something everyone can love!
- The only thing I see that the park really needs is a restroom. Just a small one hole for each sex with baby changing station.
- We believe the prefab shelter will be an attraction for people to loiter and leave trash about behind our house.
- I looked at the proposed plans linked above and do not see an option A and B. I only see one plan. Could you please send me a link to both options? I live in the Magnolia Falls neighborhood. Thanks.  
kermit.summerall@gmail.com
- No parking lot. No barbecue area. No play equipment. Please do not turn this into another park. Columbia has tons of parks already where children can play. Also, Magnolia Falls has access to the Mill Creek Manor park, so another park is not needed. The land is beautiful just the way it is, it will destroy the habitat for wildlife that are in the area. Also, a concern of more traffic and also concerned with people hanging out in the area late at night and crime.
- I would like the playground to be as large as possible. If possible, multiple pieces of equipment connected by rings/monkey bars/bridges. Taller is also better.
- Take the pond out and put in a splash pad.
- Fenced in dog park as the closest one is twin lakes. Also, not a gravel trail but a concrete one around it.
- Completely enclose a section with fencing for dogs to play.
- A Tennis court instead of soccer court
- Please add some evergreen trees to the eastern half of the park. They are needed to provide some separation between the houses on forsythia falls loop and the increased activity in the park and the cars driving on old mill creek. After the deciduous leaves have fallen we are pretty exposed to the park and old mill creek road. I would also prefer no bbq grills.
- I like this new proposed plan, however I do not think a parking lot should be included in the park. There is plenty of street parking, which is not directly in front of anyone's house because there are no houses on one side of Forsythia Falls Loop. I think the amount of traffic a park without parking would bring is extremely minimal. A parking lot in the park makes the park less safe for kids because of a wide break in the fence and the speed of the traffic going by. Also, I worry about an increase in burglaries if suspects have a place

to park where there will be no video surveillance unlike in our neighborhood where many people have security cameras. I also do not like the idea of a parking lot because there would likely need to be some lighting and I would hate to see lighting in that natural area. I would also be sad to see trees cut down for a soccer area, especially one with a goal net with a major street directly behind it. This seems like a very unsafe part of the plan. Please also be very careful to protect the large pine tree when work on the trail and bridge in that area are being done. It would be great if this tree could be assessed as well, to make sure it survives as long as it can. I know a lot of people treasure that tree as a part of our neighborhood's landscape.

- A few additional comments..Please plant trees that are of similar species if possible. When developing park access off Forsythia please leave as much of the existing forest as possible. A diverging path off the existing sidewalk that allows access is all that is required. Make it subtle, make it blend, do not overwhelm the natural beauty that already exists. The park sign along Mill Creek does not need to be large. This is not an amusement park attraction. It is a small sized 16 acres pocket park.
- After all the good input from neighbors I believe Park & Rec now has a superb plan. It was nice to see the neighbors show up and offer input and to have Parks and Rec listened. Don't change anything except maybe shrink the pavilion. Otherwise build as written.
- We have been following the park progress online. The design is lovely and the long trails will be a welcome addition. Hopefully the trails will be wide enough for wheelchairs and bikes. Expect a certain busybody on their HOA to patrol the park once completed! I don't miss abrasive types like her or that overpriced management company she was in cahoots with...Glad we moved away from all that BS. Good luck!

### **What would you change about the proposed potential improvements? Please be concise.**

- Drinking fountain would be nice. A box for little free library would be a nice addition.
- Don't make parking lot too big. No more concrete in area than absolutely necessary.
- Keep as many trees and underbrush as possible. Can you include a mommy/baby swing like at Cosmo park?
- Add handball court? It can have many uses for different ages. A checker board cement table with cement benches. We need more than just a walking around the park.
- Get rid of BBQ and soccer and make lake/pond as large as possible.
- Very happy to keep tree line along creek and have no b-ball court with lighting!
- Compared to the first few the new revised park plan is a nice change. Good Job.
- Fencing and trees
- Parking is a MUST! Having this is great. Open play fields is great and much needed.
- I like there will not be lights or basketball and the reduced parking lot

- The small parking area is probably smart idea. Hoping the new pond looks good, and a water feature in the center is an excellent idea!
- We approve of the new park design as written. We particularly like the disabled friendly connector path across the creek into our sidewalk because it will spread out bike and vehicle traffic along Forsythia.
- I like the soccer field, larger pond (maybe you will stock it?) and small parking lot along Old Mill Creek. Will there be a bridge across the creek? Hope so! Thanks.
- That concrete path inside magnolia from existing sidewalk should preserve as much of the existing trees/brush for our privacy. Please don't over bulldoze or overbuild area inside our subdivision. We like and enjoy secluded privacy along Forsythia Falls Loop just the way it is. Thanks!
- Revised sketch shown to us on September 10th looks great to us. I heard zero complaints. Please make no further changes to the plan.
- My husband and I had our doubts, but the revised plan looks good! Surprising because that foul M outhed board P erson attended the July meeting and she wasn't helpful.
- Please heed our comments: The less development the better.
- Deepen enlarge pond, open play soccer field New tree planting parking lot small park sign
- Everything. Looks good don't change a thing.
- Everything.
- I like the walking trail, larger lake and the fact your adding more trees to the magnolia falls side entrance to block the traffic on the trail entrance.
- The soccer field is fantastic!
- Love the playground and trail.
- I like it! Simple and attractive- blends in well with existing topography.
- 1. Walking trail 2. Playground equipment 3. Parking lot, but bigger 4. Fence, but would like it to be more child proof. People speed on Old Mill Creek Road 5. New trees and leaving of existing trees
- I love the fact that you made changes based on community comments. I think the open play field is a better option as it supports more activities than just basketball (and doesn't require paving more natural areas).
- Looks great, thanks!
- For the playground, shelter and any other structures, I'd really like to see colors of brown and green to blend into the scenery rather than bright primary colors. Use natural-looking materials. I'd like to see a fishing pond as well as the bridge replaced.

- Glad to see you incorporate a small parking lot along Old Mill Creek Road. Perhaps you can add some no parking signs at the park entrance inside the subdivision along Forsythia Falls Loop?
- Small parking lot is clearly needed. Thanks.
- The newest proposed plan is excellent! Thank you for taking the neighbors feedback and applying it to the plan. This will be a great addition to the neighborhood.
- We love that there is a playground, which was the most important thing for my family (and two daughters who love Columbia's playgrounds!). The bigger the playground, the better, for us. We've seen some cool equipment in our parks visits, and want Magnolia Falls Park to be the coolest. :) Monkey bars and a big slide are the top requests from my girls. I love the parking lot and soccer field. I love that there will be swings and a shelter. I am just so relieved that this will be such a great, developed space for our neighborhood and the city.
- I am happy with the gravel walking path, larger lake and that few trees will be removed.
- I think it looks great.
- A walking trail. Please keep the park the way it is! It is beautiful and the playground equipment/parking lot/barbecue would be an eye sore to the land and neighborhood
- Everything looks great!
- Like everything but the pond.
- Access to Magnolia and small parking lot
- LOVE the open play soccer field, pond and walking trail. Parking lot is a must have!!
- The playground, the shelter, the pond, the trail!
- I really like the small scale approach of this plan. I love the walking trail above all and I think a small play set will be a nice addition to the park.
- We like the new trail access point in subdivision. It is a good balance. The trail will be nice is done with care. The vast majority of comments at both public meetings and online echo what someone said on the neighborhood page awhile back. It sum's up how the majority of folks feel as it pertains to this park development: "Less is more."

*The above record(s) is subject to Missouri's open records laws and may be provided to the public if requested and/or placed in public domain.*

Thank you for your participation.

City of Columbia, MO

Parks and Recreation